

AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (original) Fryer comprising a rotatable cooking basket and an oil container, characterized in that it has air heating means and forced circulation means of said heated air through said basket for at least partially cooking the food product contained in said basket.
2. (original) Fryer according to claim 1, characterized in that said basket is cylinder-shaped positioned with its axis horizontal.
3. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said basket is of the perforated or net type.
4. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said forced circulation means comprise at least one fan.
5. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said air heating means comprise at least one first electrical resistance.
6. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said first electrical resistance is arranged below said oil container.

7. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said air heating means comprise a second electrical resistance positioned in front of said fan.

8. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said first and second resistance can be activated simultaneously or selectively according to the type of cooking selected for said food product.

9. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it has a third resistance inside said container for directly heating the oil contained in it.

10. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it has first positioning means of said basket with respect to said container.

11. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said basket is entirely arranged inside said container.

12. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said basket is entirely arranged outside said container.

13. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said basket is arranged partially inside said container.

14. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that during each of the steps of a cooking cycle said first positioning means adjust said basket with respect to said container in a point in which the food to be cooked is completely in air or completely in oil or partially in air and in oil.

15. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it has second positioning means of said container with respect to said outer casing.

16. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said second positioning means adjust said container with respect to said outer casing according to the desired heating effect on the oil carried out by said heating means.

17. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that in the outer casing of said fryer a housing for motorized means for actuating said basket into rotation about its horizontal axis is formed.

18. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it has recirculation means of said oil in said container.

19. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said recirculation means of said oil in said container are in the form of a pump.

20. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it has a duct for the forced circulation of said heated air formed between the outer surface of said container and the inner side of the outer casing of the fryer in which said container is positioned.

21. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said duct has at least one initial portion that extends parallel to the side surface of said container, an intermediate portion that extends below the bottom of said container and in which said first resistance is positioned, and an end portion that extends parallel to the side surface of said container on the opposite side to said initial portion with respect to said container.

22. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said fan is positioned in said first portion of said duct.

23. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said fan has its rotation axis horizontal.

24. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said initial portion of said duct has a fresh air inlet formed through said outer casing.

25. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said end portion of said duct has a heated air outlet arranged at a greater height than said fresh air inlet.

26. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said container has at least one opening facing said heated air outlet suitable for allowing the passage of said heated air through said basket.

27. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that a discharge passageway of the heated air that has crossed said basket is formed through the cover of said fryer.

28. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that an air filter is applied to said discharge passageway.

29. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said basket foresees holding means inside it for the food to be cooked suitable for preventing the food from suffering damage during the rotation of the basket.

30. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that each of said holding means consists of a horizontal support plate suspended in a balanced manner and free to rotate about a relative rotation pin so as to conserve the horizontal position during the rotation of said basket through the effect of its own weight.

31. (currently amended) Fryer according to ~~one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that each of said holding means consists of a gripping element suitable for holding the food to be cooked integral to said basket during the rotation of the latter.

32. (original) Method for cooking a food product with a fryer equipped with an oil container with a rotatable cooking basket, characterized in that a forced circulation of hot air through said basket is generated with heating means, and in that said basket is positioned with respect to said container so as to keep said food product at least partially exposed to said heated air for at least a period of the cooking cycle for at least partial cooking of said food product through said heated air.

33. (original) Method according to claim 32, characterized in that said food product is kept cyclically immersed in the oil for the surface finishing of the cooking of said food product through said oil.

34. (original) Method according to claim 32, characterized in that said food product is kept completely extracted from the oil for the initial or end cooking step of said food product through said heated air.

35. (currently amended) Method according to ~~any one of the previous claims from 32 to 34~~ claim 32, characterized in that the heating effect on said oil carried out by said heating means of said air is controlled by adjusting the distance between said container and said heating means.

36. (currently amended) Method according to ~~any one of the previous claims from 32 to 35~~ claim 32, characterized in that according to the type of cooking the position of said basket in said container and/or the power delivered by said heating means is adjusted.

37. cancelled.